

base sequence (II) (SEQ ID No. 2): 5'-ACCGUUGGUUUCCGUAGUGUAGUGG
UUAUCACGUUCGCCUAACACGCGAAAGGUCCCCGGUUCGAAACCGGGCACUACAAACCAACA
CACAACACUGAUGAGGACCGAAAGGUCCGAAACCGGGCACGUCGGAAACGGUUUUU-3'.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1 and 8 as follows:

1. (Amended) A ribozyme comprising a nucleotide sequence having the following base sequence (I) or (II):

base sequence (I) (SEQ ID No. 1): 5'-ACCGUUGGUUUCCGUAGUGUAGUGGUUA
UCACGUUCGCCUAACACGCGAAAGGUCCCCGGUUCGAAACCGGGCACUACAAACACAACACUGA
UGAGGACCGAAAGGUCCGAAACCGGGCACGUCGGAAACGGUUUUU-3'

base sequence (II) (SEQ ID No. 2): 5'-ACCGUUGGUUUCCGUAGUGUAGUGGUU
AUCACGUUCGCCUAACACGCGAAAGGUCCCCGGUUCGAAACCGGGCACUACAAACCAACACACA
ACACUGAUGAGGACCGAAAGGUCCGAAACCGGGCACGUCGGAAACGGUUUUU-3'.

8. (Amended) An RNA variant adopting the following secondary structure (I), wherein said RNA variant comprises a bulge structure introduced in the region in which hydrogen bonds form between nucleotides 8 to 14 and nucleotides 73 to 79.

